

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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5 1. A method of communicating data between a first computing device and a second computing device, the method comprising the steps of:

communicating a first datum of a message from the first computing device to the second computing device with encryption of the first datum; and

communicating a second datum of the message from the first computing device to the second computing device without encryption of the second datum.

10 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of communicating the first datum of the message with encryption of the first datum and the step of communicating the second datum of the message without encryption of the second datum comprise the step of communicating the first datum with encryption and the second datum without encryption in a same packet that comprises the message.

15 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of communicating the first datum of the message with encryption of the first datum and the step of communicating the second datum of the message without encryption of the second datum comprise the steps of:

communicating the first datum with encryption in a first packet of the message;

and

20 communicating the second datum without encryption in a second packet of the message different from the first packet of the message.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of communicating the first datum of the message with encryption of the first datum and the step of communicating the second datum of

the message without encryption of the second datum comprise the step of employing a same path between the first computing device and the second computing device to communicate the first datum with encryption and the second datum without encryption.

5 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the step of employing the same path to communicate the first datum with encryption and the second datum without encryption comprises the step of employing a TCP/IP passage between the first computing device and the second computing device to communicate the first datum with encryption and the second datum without encryption.

6 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of communicating the first datum of the message with encryption of the first datum comprises the step of employing a key to encrypt the first datum of the message for communication of the first datum from the first computing device to the second computing device with encryption of the first datum.

7 7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of communicating a key from the second computing device to the first computing device, and wherein the step of communicating the first datum of the message from the first computing device to the second computing device with encryption of the first datum comprises the step of employing the key to encrypt the first datum of the message for communication of the first datum from the first computing device to the second computing device.

8 8. The method of claim 7 wherein the key comprises a first key, and further comprising the step of employing a second key to decrypt the first datum of the message after communication of the first datum from the first computing device to the second computing device with encryption of the first datum.

9. The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of selecting the first key and the second key to comprise matched keys for communication of the first datum of the message from the first computing device to the second computing device with security of the first datum.

10. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of communicating a procedure from the second computing device to the first computing device, and wherein the step of communicating the first datum of the message from the first computing device to the second computing device with encryption of the first datum comprises the step of employing the procedure to encrypt the first datum of the message for communication of the first datum from the first computing device to the second computing device.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of communicating the procedure from the second computing device to the first computing device comprises the step of selecting the procedure to comprise a procedure based on a machine independent Web protocol.

12. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of communicating the procedure from the second computing device to the first computing device comprises the step of selecting the procedure to comprise a procedure based on substantially lowest common denominator Java.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of communicating the first datum of the message from the first computing device to the second computing device with encryption of the first datum comprises the step of employing the procedure to select the first datum of the message for communication of the first datum from the first computing device to the second computing device with encryption of the first datum.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the step of communicating the second datum of the message from the first computing device to the second computing device without encryption of the second datum comprises the step of employing the procedure to select the second datum of

the message for communication of the second datum from the first computing device to the second computing device without encryption of the second datum.

15. A data communication system comprising:

a first computing device that communicates information to a second computing device responsive to a request from the second computing device to the first computing device, the information including a procedure that causes the second computing device to select a first datum of a message for communication of the first datum from the second computing device to the first computing device with encryption and select a second datum of the message for communication of the second datum from the second computing device to the first computing device without encryption; and

the first computing device receiving the first datum with encryption and the second datum without encryption and decrypting the first datum.

16. The system of claim 15 wherein the first computing device receives the first datum with encryption and the second datum without encryption in a same packet that comprises the message.

17. The system of claim 15 wherein the first computing device receives the first datum with encryption in a first packet of the message, and wherein the first computing device receives the second datum without encryption in a second packet of the message different from the first packet of the message.

18. The system of claim 15 wherein the first computing device employs a same path to receive from the second computing device, the first datum of the message with encryption and the second datum of the message without encryption.

19. The system of claim 18 wherein the same path comprises a TCP/IP passage between the first computing device and the second computing device.

20. The system of claim 15 wherein the information communicated from the first computing device to the second computing device includes a key employed by the second computing device to encrypt the first datum of the message for communication of the first datum from the second computing device to the first computing device.

21. The system of claim 20 wherein the key comprises a first key, and wherein the first computing device employs a second key to decrypt the first datum of the message communicated from the second computing device to the first computing device with encryption of the first datum.

22. The system of claim 21 wherein the first computing device selects the first key and the second key to comprise matched keys for communication of the first datum of the message from the second computing device to the first computing device with security of the first datum.

23. The system of claim 15 in combination with the second computing device, wherein the second computing device employs the procedure to encrypt the first datum for communication of the first datum of the message from the second computing device to the first computing device.

24. The system of claim 15 wherein the procedure is based on a machine independent Web protocol.

25. The system of claim 15 wherein the procedure is based on substantially lowest common denominator Java.

26. The system of claim 15 wherein the procedure causes the second computing device to select the first datum for communication of the first datum of the message from the second computing device to the first computing device with encryption of the first datum.

27. The system of claim 26 wherein the procedure causes the second computing device to select the second datum for communication of the second datum of the message from the second computing device to the first computing device without encryption of the second datum.

28. An article of manufacture, comprising:

at least one computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing communication of a first datum of a message with encryption of the first datum and communication of a second datum of the message without encryption of the second datum, the computer readable program code means in the article of manufacture comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a first computing device to communicate information to a second computing device responsive to a request from the second computing device to the first computing device, the information including a procedure that causes the second computing device to select the first datum of the message for encrypted communication of the first datum from the second computing device to the first computing device and select the second datum of the message for non-encrypted communication of the second datum from the second computing device to the first computing device; and

computer readable program code means for causing the first computing device to decrypt the first datum of the message communicated with encryption from the second

computing device to the first computing device, the second datum of the message communicated without encryption from the second computing device to the first computing device.

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